



Kosovo president moves to dissolve Parliament for early election as country plunges into new crisis
P- 11

Janhvi Kapoor On Venturing Into South Cinema: 'Very Connected To Andhra, Telangana, Tamil Nadu Culture Because...'
P-10

Easing regulatory environment to attract investment: CM



Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today chaired a high-level meeting to review progress on Compliance Reduction and Deregulation 2.0, a comprehensive national initiative aimed at easing

Pension bill likely to double in 10 yrs

The pension bill of the Jammu and Kashmir government is set to double in the 10-year period between 2020-30, with approximately 2.48 lakh retired employees being paid allowances, officials said.

Zojila Pass remains open despite heavy snowfall

For the first time ever, the strategic Zojila Pass along the Leh-Srinagar highway has remained open beyond February 28 despite heavy snowfall, marking a significant development for connectivity between the two Union Territories.

Anuj tops civil services exam

NEW DELHI, MAR 06: Anuj Agnihotri, an MBBS graduate, has topped the civil services examination 2025, results of which were declared by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) on Friday.

West Asia crisis Will use all policy tools to help exporters: Piyush

NEW DELHI, MAR 06: Commerce & Industry minister Piyush Goyal today said that the government would use all policy tools and support measures to help domestic exporters deal with the ongoing West Asia crisis.

SC raps delayed appeals, warns disobedient litigants of contempt

NEW DELHI, MAR 06: The Supreme Court has sharply criticised the growing practice of litigants, particularly government authorities, failing to comply with court orders and filing delayed appeals or review petitions only when faced with contempt proceedings.

India on verge of eliminating Maoists: Shah

MUNDALI (ODISHA), MAR 06: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday asserted that the country is on the verge of eliminating Maoists by the end of this month, and said security forces will defeat those who dream of building a red corridor from Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh to Pashu

India gets 30-day waiver from US to buy Russian oil

NEW YORK/WASHINGTON, MAR 06: Amid the escalating conflict with Iran, the US said it is issuing a temporary 30-day waiver to allow Indian refiners to purchase Russian oil.

No sign of war letting up

Israel bombs Tehran, Beirut as US vows 'surge' in Iran strikes

DUBAI, MAR 06: Israeli warplanes today pounded Beirut & Tehran as Iran launched another wave of retaliatory strikes against Israel and Gulf countries. There was no sign of the war letting up on its seventh day, as US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth warned the the American air campaign against Iran would "surge dramatically."

The strikes in Lebanon were the heaviest since a 2024 ceasefire ended the last war between Israel and the Iran-backed Hezbollah, who fired rockets at Israel in the opening days of the latest conflict. Tens of thousands have fled Beirut's suburbs and southern Lebanon after sweeping Israeli evacuation warnings.

The war has escalated to affect more than a dozen countries across the Middle East and beyond. The US said it had struck an Iranian drone carrier at sea

as it waged an unrelenting campaign against the country's navy that earlier included torpedoing of a warship in the Indian Ocean.

The US and Israel have battered Iran with strikes, targeting their military capabilities, leadership and nuclear program.

The stated goals and timelines for the war have repeatedly shifted, as the US has at times suggested it seeks to topple Iran's government or elevate new leadership from within.

The war has already caused a spike in oil prices, and Qatar's energy minister warned that it could "bring down the economies of the world," predicting a widespread shutdown of Gulf energy exports that could send oil to \$150 a barrel.

Saad al-Kaabi told the Financial Times that even if the war ended immediately it could take "weeks to months" to resume normal exports after an Iranian drone strike on Qatar's

largest liquefied natural gas plant.

Israel's military said on Friday morning it had begun "a broad-scale wave of strikes" on Tehran, Iran's capital.

Witnesses described Israeli airstrikes as particularly intense, shaking homes in the area. Others reported explosions around the Iranian city of Kermanshah in an area that is home to multiple missile bases.

Iran meanwhile launched missile and drone attacks at Israel, as well as Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain all countries that host U.S. forces. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

The war has killed at least 1,230 people in Iran, more than 120 in Lebanon and around a dozen in Israel, according to officials in those countries. Six US troops have been killed.

Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian said Friday that "some countries" had begun mediation efforts in the conflict, without elaborating.

The United Nations high commissioner for human rights, Volker Turk, urged all countries involved to de-escalate, saying "the world urgently needs to see steps to contain and extinguish this blaze."

The US military said early on Friday that it struck an Iranian drone carrier, setting it ablaze. The US military's Central Command released black-and-white footage of the burning carrier. The Iranian military did not immediately acknowledge the attack.

The drone carrier, the IRIS Shahid Bagheri, is a converted container ship with a 180-meter-long (yard) runway for drones. The vessel can travel up to 22,000 nautical miles without needing to refuel in ports, reports said at the time of its 2025 inauguration.

Adm. Brad Cooper, head

Need to make agri products export-oriented, globally-competitive: Modi

NEW DELHI, MAR 06: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday asked farmers to leverage India's diverse climatic conditions and focus on scaling up the harvest of high-value crops to enable the country's agri products to effectively compete in global markets.

Addressing a post-budget webinar on 'Agriculture and Rural Transformation', Modi said steps need to be taken to promote all aspects of "quality, branding and standards" of Indian agriculture produce. Agri experts, industry and

farmers will have to come together to achieve this goal, he said.

"Today the markets of the world are opening, and global demand is changing... It is necessary to have more discussion on making our agriculture export-oriented. We have a di-

verse climate, and we must take full advantage of it. We are rich in agro-climatic zones," he said in his third post-budget webinar.

The Budget for 2026-27 has also focussed on high-value agriculture, including cashew, cocoa, sandalwood, Modi said, adding the National Mission on Edible Oil and Pulses and the National Mission on Natural Farming are all strengthening the agriculture sector.

"If we scale up the high-value agri sector, only then we can convert our agriculture sector to a globally-

years they have increasingly become the norm.

"Delayed filing of appeals should be the exception. But in recent times, the exception has practically evolved to become the rule. Orders passed by courts are not complied with for a long time, and when contempt petitions are filed, belated appeals, with tremendous delay, are preferred," the bench observed.

The court also rejected the defence often taken by authorities citing administrative hurdles or impossibility of implementing or-

ders. It said such arguments cannot be raised during contempt proceedings if the concerned party did not inform the court about the difficulty within the stipulated time.

The bench warned that such conduct undermines the authority of courts and may amount to criminal contempt in certain situations.

"We, in no uncertain terms, deprecate these practices. It is felt that by such modus operandi, disobedient litigants act brazenly which has the fur

No country today holds overall global hegemony: Jaishankar

Says era of big deals between dominant powers over

NEW DELHI, MAR 06: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has

Stating that the global expectation of maintaining a fixed world order from the mid-20th century was "unrealistic" and that power had now significantly "spread out" across various dimensions, external affairs minister S Jaishankar today said that the era of big deals between dominant powers was over.

He reflected on the evolving nature of global governance over the last seven decades. "The era of big deals between dominant powers is over," he said, adding that global multipolarity was now an irreversible reality rooted in shared historical experiences.

"When we look back at these 70 years, I think the expectation that we can freeze a 1945 or a 1989 forever was a very unrealistic one. In fact, look back at the 70 years. These 70 years, we debate, how did we do, why didn't it last, 70 years



is 1 pc of Indian history. Why would 1 pc of Indian history last? Life moves on," Jaishankar said while speaking at the Raisina Dialogue here.

He argued that the international community's focus on historical frameworks failed to recognise the emerging drivers of global transformation.

"I think this attachment to the past did not take into account the forces that were propelling the change. If there are going to be two big changes in this decade, one will be technology, but the other will be demographic," he told the audience.

Addressing the shifting global power dynamics, Jaishankar noted that

while much of the current geopolitical analysis remains focused on the United States, the world is moving toward a more fragmented distribution of influence.

"A lot of the analysis is obviously centred around the changes in America. My sense is you're going to have a future which will really be much more multipolar because no country today has hegemony over so many domains that it is an overall hegemon," the Minister remarked.

He explained that modern power is no longer defined solely by traditional metrics of wealth or military might, but by specialised regional strengths.

"It's not just a distribution of GDP and capabilities. I think in different domains, different parts of the world will contribute more or will have more capabilities. So the power in its different dimensions has spread out much more," Jaishankar added.

Nepal elections

RSP secures "two-thirds majority" in parliamentary polls

KATHMANDU, MAR 06: Hundreds of supporters took to the streets across Nepal, singing, dancing, and celebrating as former Mayor of Kathmandu Metropolitan City, Balendra Shah's party, Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP), claimed an absolute two-thirds majority in the parliamentary election in the country's House of Representatives as counting continues.

Supporters danced to songs praising the soon-to-be Prime Minister, Balendra Shah, popularly known

as "Balen", at counting centres, ringing the bells - the election symbol of the party.

Dol Prasad Aryal, vice president of RSP, stated that the party expects a two-thirds majority in the upcoming parliament.

"One hundred and eighty-six. Yes, in total we are expecting one hundred and eighty-six seats," Aryal said as he exited a counting centre on the outskirts of Kathmandu on Friday afternoon.

Balendra Shah, a former rapper and mayor, is

poised to become the next Prime Minister of the Himalayan nation, after a clean sweep in the election, held in the wake of last year's September Gen-Z unrest, which toppled the government led by the PM KP Sharma Oli.

The two-day protest saw the deaths of at least 77 protestors after police opened fire on demonstrators, who were mainly college students and members of the public.

Thursday's election, held after a six-month gap,

17 from J&K clear UPSC civil services exam

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, MAR 06

At least 17 candidates from Jammu and Kashmir have cleared the Civil Services Examination 2025, the results of which were declared on Friday by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

As per available details, Suvan Sharma from Jammu secured rank 148, followed by Sugandha Gupta (207) and Towseef Ahmad Ganaie (254).

Other successful candidates from the Union Ter-



ritory include Ritika Bhan (456), Sooyash Shivam (572), Muneeb Parrah

(581), Ghulam Din (663), Dwarka Gaadhi (721),

Won't disclose data on crude export to India: Russia

MOSCOW, MAR 06: Amid the West Asia conflict, Russia today said that it would not disclose the data on crude oil export to India and keep it secret from "too many ill-wishers".

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov's comments came hours after US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said that Washington had issued a temporary 30-day waiver to allow Indian refiners to purchase Russian oil, amid the West Asia conflict.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak

said his country was ready to ramp up crude supplies to India and China, which are hit by US-Israeli strikes on Iran and the virtual closure of oil transit via the Strait of Hormuz due to Tehran's retaliatory strikes.

The Kremlin had on February 4, 2026 declared that India retains the freedom to procure oil from various countries, a statement underscoring the nation's historical efforts to diversify its crude supply sources.

The comment from

Resolution seeking Birla's removal follows rules, debate must take place: Cong

NEW DELHI, MAR 06: With the Lok Sabha likely to take up next week a notice seeking Speaker Om Birla's removal from office, the Congress on Friday said the resolution follows the rules and conventions, with opposition MPs having cited specific instances of "partisan behaviour" by the speaker, which call for a debate.

As Parliament meets for the second phase of the Budget session on March 9, the Lok Sabha is likely to take up the notice to move a resolution to remove Birla from office for allegedly acting in a "blatantly partisan" manner.

Congress general secretary in-charge of communications, Jairam Ramesh, said, "All the opposition parties other than the Trinamool Congress have signed the motion for the removal of the speaker. Let us see. They have said it's going to be taken up on

March 9."

He added that 118 opposition MPs belonging to all political parties, barring the Trinamool, signed the notice.

"It's a healthy, democratic practice. We have submitted a motion, which is according to the rules, according to the conventions... There have been previous occasions, for example, in 1954, when the combined opposition strength was hardly 50, and the Congress had 364 MPs in a House of 489. A no-confidence motion was brought against the speaker, the great G V Mavalankar," Ramesh said.